VZCZCXRO5301 PP RUEHAG RUEHROV DE RUEHRO #1112 1441051 ZNY CCCCC ZZH P 241051Z MAY 07 ZDK FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8107 INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFF COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 3243 RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY BAKU PRIORITY 0093 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0856 RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV PRIORITY RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 4350 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0393 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0497 RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI PRIORITY 0213 RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0947 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1889 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0170 RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN PRIORITY 0040 RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 2394 RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 8667 RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 2560 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0748

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FOR NEA/IRAN, WHA/AND AND ISN/RA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/23/2017

TAGS: PREL MARR PHUM MASS ECON PTER KNNP PARM VE

IR, IT

SUBJECT: ITALY MONITORING IRAN-VENEZUELA RELATIONSHIP

REF: A. STATE 61378

_B. STATE 61222

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor David D. Pearce for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (C) Poloffs conveyed Ref A points to MFA Gulf Countries Acting Office Director Lorenzo Klutzer May 10 and MFA South Africa Acting Office Director Paolo Campanini May 23, emphasizing U.S. concerns about implications of the growing Iran-Venezuela alliance for terrorism and proliferation activities. Campanini noted that his office had been following the same events, and that it was helpful to see the various aspects of the Iran-Venezuela relationship laid out together. Italy shared U.S. concerns, especially regarding the potential to facilitate terrorist activity based on this partnership. Campanini said the GOI would continue to follow the issue carefully. Klutzer promised to convey U.S. concerns to the MFA's NEA A/S equivalent.
- 12. (C) Poloffs delivered Ref B points to Klutzer May 10 and to MFA UN Office Director Leonardo Bencini May 9. Bencini and Klutzer took the points under advisement, but offered no substantive comment.

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